SECTION 2: THE DSRS APPLICATION

2.1 SYSTEM OVERVIEW

The DSRS is an automated repository containing Reusable Assets (RAs) available to the Department of Defense (DOD), other Government agencies, and supporting contractors. Its functions and features have been designed to enable users to operate the application quickly and efficiently. The DSRS application enables users to search, evaluate, and acquire RAs.

The user-friendly interface is designed to assist users in formulating a search, executing a search, and returning the results. Searches can be performed within the DSRS by Domain, RA ID, RA Name, or keywords.

Users can determine what RAs are currently available in the DSRS through the DSRS catalog. The DSRS catalog may be accessed from the DSRS Home Page on the World Wide Web (WWW), or extracted directly from the DSRS repository. References in this manual to a "local catalog" refer to a system generated catalog which resides on a user's workstation. This catalog is generated by a user's RA searches which builds and stores an 'RA List'.

The DSRS allows users to browse information about each RA, including the files, metrics, and other related RAs. Using this information, users can analyze the RA based on a metric, clear their local catalog, and sort the RA List by RA ID or RA Name. Once an RA has been selected, it can be extracted by downloading it as a file or by a user's request for a tape or hard copy from the DSRS staff. A user can also print RA lists, and store and retrieve session information for later use.

The DSRS on-line help is available at any time, and includes both concepts and step-by-step instructions on how to use the system.

2.2 SYSTEM FEATURES

The Client/Server Architecture for the DSRS defines the configuration required for the user's workstation and the connection software required to connect to the DSRS server.

Client/Server Architecture

- SunOS or Solaris client and SunOS or Solaris 2.3 server
- X-Windows/Motif User Interface

The DSRS provides several ways in which a user can search for RAs. Searches can be performed using any the following options.

Multiple Search Options

- Wildcard RA IDs
- Wildcard RA Names
- Keywords
- Catalog Indexes (WWW)

A user may view an RA by selecting a viewer which resides on the user's workstation to display the file. This option is available in the Browse menu.

Browse Associations

- Supports multiple file formats

The DSRS displays RA metric values for an individual RA, or for a list of RAs selected by a user.

Once an RA has been selected, it may be extracted from the DSRS system through any of the following options:

Multiple Extraction Options

- Provides a choice of four extraction methods:
  - File Copy
  - Tape Copy
  - Hard Copy
  - FTP
- Extraction of multiple RA Files

2.3 HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE REQUIREMENTS

The minimum hardware and software requirements needed to run the DSRS for X/Motif workstation Client are listed below:

Hardware Requirements

- Sun 4 architecture
- 16 MB memory
- 10 MB Available Disk Space
- Connection to the DDN/Internet

Software Requirements

- DSRS X/Motif Client Software
- Sun OS 4.1.3 or (Solaris 2.3)
- Open Windows Version 3.0 for use with Sun OS 4.1.3 or Open Windows Version 3.3 for use with Solaris 2.3
- ICS OSF Version 1.2.4 for use with Sun OS 4.1.3 or ICS OSF Version 1.2.2 for use with Solaris 2.3
- Minerva MSQL RDMS V1.0

2.4 COMMUNICATION SOFTWARE REQUIREMENTS

The DSRS server can be accessed by a full-time Internet connection. Your workstation must be configured correctly to access the DSRS server as shown in Figure 2-1. Contact the DSRS site administrator for dial-up phone numbers and modem information.

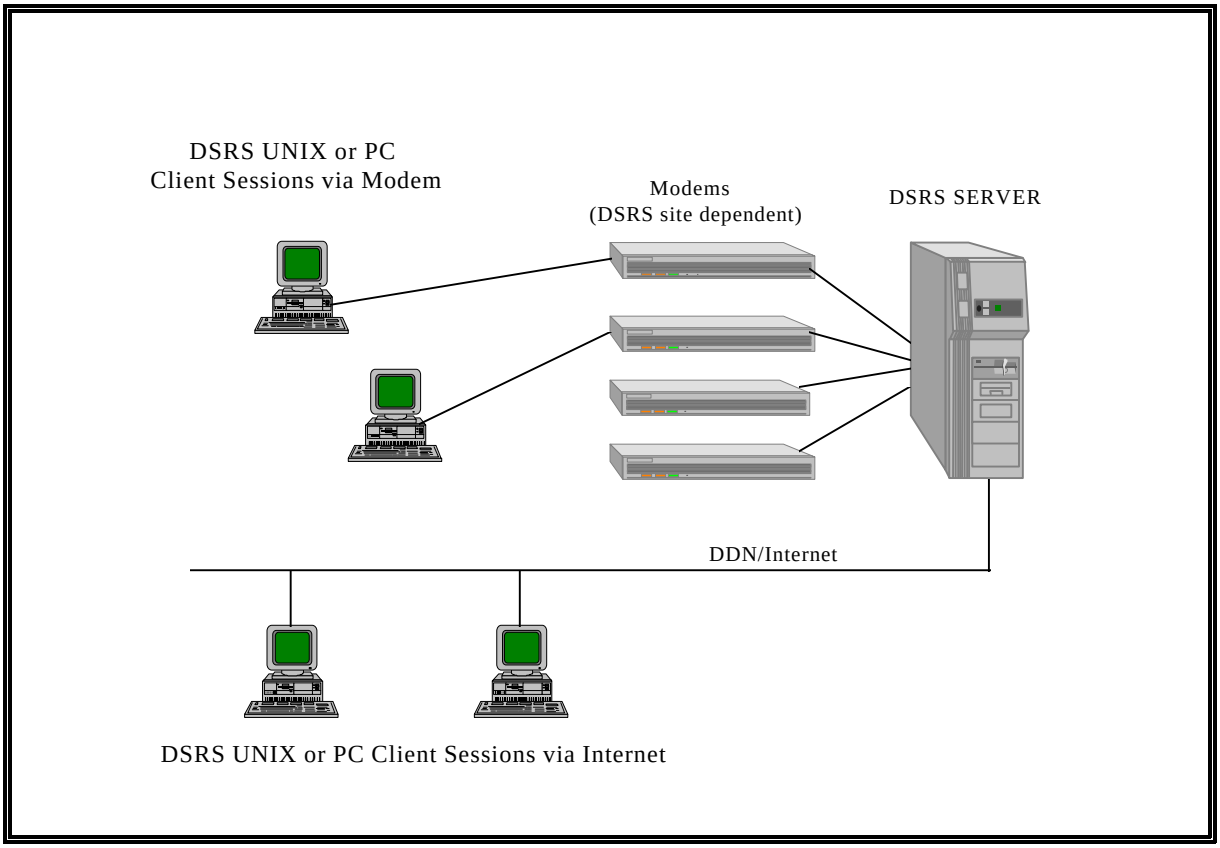

Figure 2-1. DSRS Communication Connectivity

25 ASSISTANCE AND PROBLEM REPORTING

For assistance with the DSRS or to report a problem with the system of assets, contact the DSRS staff at the site where your DSRS account is established.